



Vol. 15, No. 18

April 30, 1960



Tues., May 3 - Book Night: "To Moscow - And Beyond" by Harrison Salisbury. Panelists: Mr. Salisbury, Pulitzer prize-winning reporter for *The N.Y. Times* will be joined by Norman Cousins, editor of *The Saturday Review*, and John Scott, assistant to the publisher of *Time*. Both Mr. Salisbury and Mr. Scott are former Moscow correspondents. John Barkham, book critic for *The Saturday Review Syndicate*, will be moderator. Cocktails, 6:30 p.m. Dinner, 7:30 p.m. Charge \$3. Reservations, please.

Wed., May 4 - SAS Luncheon for foreign journalists. Cocktails, 12 noon, Luncheon, 12:30 p.m.

Wed., May 11 - Navy Night: Principal guests will be Rear Admiral William F. Raborn, Jr., father of the Polaris Missile and Special Projects Officer for the Secretary of the Navy; and Vice Admiral Robert B. Price, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Air. Other admirals and special correspondents will be in attendance. Cocktails, 6:30 p.m. Dinner, 7:30 p.m.

78 Foreign Pledges

OPC members stationed in 30 foreign countries have pledged contributions to the World Press Center, it was reported this week at fund drive headquarters.

A total of 78 members have been reported as pledging support from overseas, six from APO addresses not designating particular countries. This is approximately 20% of membership overseas.

In addition to pledges received from such famed dateline cities as London, Paris, Madrid, Moscow, Tokyo and New Delhi, contribution promises also funneled into fund headquarters from such less familiar spots as Nairobi and Dharan.

"This proportionately large response from our far-flung membership underscores again the global nature of our World Press Center project", said President John Wilhelm. "It also indicates the solidarity of our members and their whole-hearted backing of this venture."

(Continued on page 6)

Branch in B. A.

OPC Governors have approved establishment of a Club chapter in Buenos Aires. The request was made last August 3 in a letter from six OPC'ers, Brian Bell and Sam Summerlin of AP; David Richardson, USN & WR; Piero Saporiti and Isaac Levi of Time-Life; and Herbert Clark, NY Daily News-CBS.

Like other overseas chapters, the new B.A. group plans monthly luncheon gatherings for leading Argentine figures.

Also approved at the Apr. 4 meeting was the request by Will Oursler, Chairman of the OPC committee dealing with the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project, that along with the Club's yearly \$100 donation to the worthy cause, the Board ask all members who had written books during the year to donate copies — through their publishers. He felt the hospital would greatly appreciate a dozen or so books written and autographed by Club members, as additional prizes.

WPC Fund Drive Chairman Ben Wright reported at this meeting that he has appointed Harold Oram to head and select a special "Sub-committee" to plan activities necessary to achieve the balance of the fund's extended goal, with real effort on corporations. The report was accepted with a vote of gratitude to Mr. Wright.



Renewed trouble in Korea gave special meaning to the Far East night reunion at OPC April 22. Jonathan Winters, the comic and a former Marine, entertained the large turnout, which included: l. to r., standing: Max Desfor, Ed Hymoff, Bill Berns, George McCadden, Hal Levine, Ansel Talbert, Bill Jessup, Hal Boyle, Jay Miller, Cornelius Ryan, Milburn McCarty, Franz Weissblatt, Kevin Delaney; Seated: Bill Ross, Abe Schechter, Col. Barney Oldfield, Jonathan Winters, Len Saffir, Will Oursler, Larry Blochman. Comm. Head Gordon Fraser organized the reunion.

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Overseas Ticker

..... Edited by CHARLES KLENSCH

JOBURG... from DICK KASISCHKE

Some of the British correspondents left Johannesburg the middle of last week after the Africans' stayathome appeared to fizzle out. But then big police raids on African townships (settlements) started up again and there was an accompanying row on foreign policy in the national parliament.

At this writing (Apr 20) Charley Arnott, ABC, is off to Capetown to do some interviews and TV shooting. Homer Bigart, NYTimes, still in Capetown. Welles Hangen, NBC, and his cameraman, Helmut Ammon, also heading Capetown.

Winston Burdett, CBS, also still round and about Capetown working with his cameraman, having temporarily relinquished CBS Radio work to a stringer.



Kasischke

Heinzerling

And from AP-NY comes this report:

Lynn Heinzerling, AP-Johannesburg, has said so many farewells, so often, he "feels like the oft-retired Sarah Bernhardt."

After 3 yrs as Joburg buochief, he was assigned to swap jobs with Vienna buochief Dick Kasischke. Kasischke arrived Mar 13 to take over. But before Heinzerling could catch a plane, rioting broke out and AP ordered him to stand by.

Friends who had attended Heinzerling farewell parties, were surprised to find he was still answering the AP buophone long after he was scheduled to be in Vienna. The result: another round of farewells.

BELGRADE.... from JOE PETERS

Sy Freiden, NYPost, blew into town last week and Paul Underwood, NYTimes, returned to base from a jaunt to Sarajevo and Dubrovnik and wife and kids. Together we listened to Marshal Tito's 2-hr speech to the V Socialist Congress. All three of us cabled it to the States, but I doubt that anything was used—except Paul's stuff in the Good Old Times.

Before Sy arrived and Paul returned, I found myself the only American correspondent in Belgrade. AP and UPI are represented by Yugoslav stringers and the ChriSciMon man is English. But as soon as big news breaks, the others

flock in from all over Europe in a couple of hours.

At the Fgn Ministry Press knf Apr 15

there were about 35 newsmen. mostly Yugoslavs with a sprinkling of Germans (E and W), French, Russians, Poles, Chinese—and I. The Fgn Min spokesman opened by inviting questions. Because of the makeup of the corps, the questions chiefly touched on such matters as Spanish bases for WGermany, the Bandung knf, Togoland independence, &c.

Curiously enough, although there are seldom more than two or three English-speaking correspondents present, each Q&A is given in Yugoslav and English only.

After my first week I found I hadn't met a person who didn't know Bill Berns, who spent two years here as an RCA consultant. He was and is the most popular guy in these parts. Even at the Embassy they say he's been the best goodwill ambassador we've ever had.

TAIPEI... from GERALDINE FITCH

Albert E. Kaff, UPI, was elected pres. at the organization meeting of the Fgn Correspondents Club held at the Friends of China Club Apr 21. Other officers: Newsreel Wong, vpres; Jack Macbeth, TimeLife, secy, and Henri Mengin, AFP, treas.

Visitors: Mr. & Mrs. Albert Dix of the Ohio newspaper chain ... Max Scheler, Der Stern-WGermany... Stan Rich, NBC-Hongkong, and wife....Photographer Margaret Baker, making annual Fareast tour for lecture and TV material... The Sultan of Brunei's brother, Min of Telecommunications, Bengiran Kerma Indra Mohammed, who was among the foreign Moslems in Taipei for dedication of a new mosque.

(Continued on page 3)

Editors This Week Are:
George Bookman, Robert Deindorfer
Bulletin Committee Co-Chairmen:
Donald Wayne, Jess Gorkin
Managing Editor: Lucille G. Pierlot



Peters



Kaff

Press Floods Guinea During Afro-Asian Conference

By BERNARD S. REDMONT

CONAKRY, GUINEA (West Africa) — Fifty newsmen, mostly from Asian and African countries, descended on the picturesque capital of the newly independent Republic of Guinea two weeks ago to cover the Afro-Asian Conference — the biggest invasion of journalists in Guinea's history.

Anyone who thinks covering an international conference in Geneva, Paris, London or Washington is tough, ought to try Conakry. This dreamy equatorial town, dozing under palm and mango trees along the Atlantic coast of Africa, has never known such an influx of delegates and press, has only one adequate hotel and utterly primitive communications.

As a journalistic enterprise, it was pure adventure. Cables and wireless, which normally handle a few words per day, were suddenly obliged to absorb 10,000 words daily, and dispatches piled up for hours and hours. Cable offices closed early. There were virtually no telephone contacts, except for a single crackling circuit available (sometimes) for all purposes including radio, for exactly half an hour every morning. Local telephones worked off and on.

The entire republic of Guinea has not a single newspaper, making it almost impossible for newsmen to know what was going on in the outside world unless they managed to catch a news broadcast or subscribe to the mimeographed daily bulletin of the Guinea Press Agency.

Conference was covered by Andrew Nash, Associated Press; Pierre Cheramy, UPI; Horace Castell, Reuters; Jacques Dauphin, Jean Boulet and Bernard Redmont, AFP; and a flock of British, European, African and Asian special correspondents. This correspondent managed also to achieve the rare feat of doing several direct radio spots from Conakry to U. S. stations.

Hotels were overflowing, even the African-type fleabags, and correspond-

ents often had to take pot luck for lodgings and food, fortifying themselves with quinine pills against malaria, yellow fever shots and prayers against leprosy.

Torrid heat and a haphazard, though amiable, official press service made matters even tougher, though somehow the news was covered. The simultaneous translation system by earphones broke down on the first day, and the loud-speaker system in the tin-roofed conference hall was generally temperamental. Few delegates came prepared with texts. A knowledge of French and Arabic, in addition to English, was worth many scoops. The conference press office never got around to issuing a list of countries or delegates represented, so we had to make our own.

No actual censorship was encountered. But a Ghana citizen who was to have covered for UPI and The New York Times was refused entry at the airport and deported; a Turkish correspondent was arrested and expelled; and the three AFP correspondents were officially threatened with expulsion, but succeeded in getting this edict reversed and carried on.

President Sekou Toure maintains an "open door" policy and is easy to talk to, and Guineans, in general, are most amiable to newsmen.

Delegates and press relaxed at official caviar and champagne receptions in the presidential gardens under cocoanut trees, danced to rhythmic xylophone and tamtam bands, saw remarkable African folklore ballet performances. We also took in a special show given by the Chinese Acrobatic Art Troupe and orchestra, (which goes back 2,000 years in tradition), sent on tour to the Guinean jungle towns by the Peking government in a highly astute propaganda move.

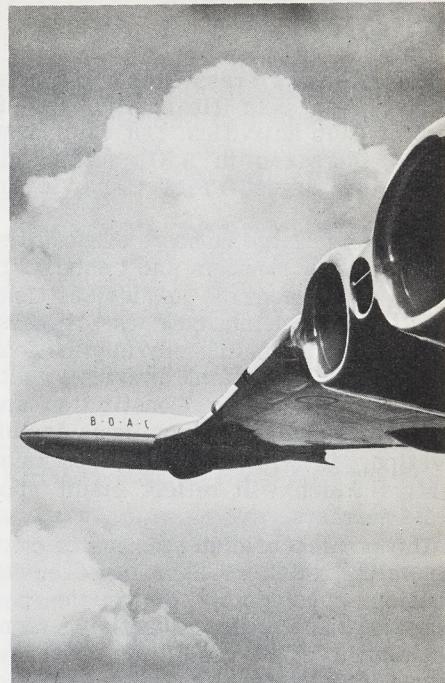
Communist bloc penetration in the new Republic of Guinea has been substantial, but Sekou Toure maintains a policy of "positive neutralism", and cultivates ties with the U.S. and other Western nations very assiduously.

firemen—among them Ben Grauer, Bob Considine and Horace Sutton. The resident press corps barely managed to squeeze its own hospitality into Sabena's busy schedule for the junketeers.

Carl Mydans, Life, and wife hosted Time art advisor Francis Brennan. Henry Shapiro, UPI, soireed UPI vpres Frank Tremain and UPI Euro newspic mgr Julius Humi.

Among the Shapiro guests was Jim Hagerty—here to line up the President's tour—and several Soviet newspaper editors.

Hagerty held two long sessions at the USEmb with the American press colony to (Continued on page 6)



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PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT PART 2:CLUB OPERATIONS

The Overseas Press Club had a most salutary year both financially and in terms of Club activities. Our Club membership increased to 2,513 making us one of the largest Press Clubs in the world.

We took in large numbers of most distinguished new members and I especially wish to compliment the Admissions Committee upon maintaining the highest standards and refusing any applications which did not conform precisely with the provisions of our Constitution and By-Laws. If the Club continues in this direction, it will command increasing prestige which will reflect credit upon all its members.

The problem of club prestige is critical. While I think we have improved the situation considerably during the past year, there are still influential persons who remain skeptical of the Overseas Press Club's professional status and for this reason, while we did get President Frondizi of Argentina and President Lleras Camargo of Venezuela as club speakers, we notably failed to secure Premier Khrushchev, President Adenauer and General de Gaulle, all of whom did speak at the National Press Club.

For this reason we have taken several steps this year.

1. We felt our relations in Washington must be improved, and I personally visited the White House, while we began sending a three months trial subscription of our Overseas Press Bulletin to members of the Overseas Writers Club in Washington, to the National Press Club and to a few other influential people. I am pleased to state we already have seen a noticeable effect in Washington.

2. We are proposing several changes in our constitution, all of which will come before the members for a referendum, and one of which will specifically tend to stress the professional standing of our club for the future while not affecting any of our present members. I heartily endorse this provision and urge you to vote for it.

Club Operations:

Financially, the Club had a most successful year with a net income (profit) for the twelve months ending March 31st, 1960, amounting to \$27,108.44. That a press club can operate on such a profitable basis I think is something of which we can all be proud. Members' equity as of April 1st amounted to \$137,973.89 which reflects our cash position plus our assets, but not including the building, which is the property of the Correspondents Fund, and not including the fund drive income which is reported below. The Treasurer will give you further details in his Annual Report.

Annual Awards Dinner:

The Overseas Press Club's 21st Annual Dinner was an outstanding success and I am inclined to agree with one member who attended and wrote to the Bulletin this comment: "It was the best dinner we ever had." Not only was it a great financial success but the program was exceedingly well-handled and so were the awards. The Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria was filled to capacity that evening. I personally thank Chet Huntley, Dinner Chairman, and his very fine committee, as well as John Day, Chairman of the Awards Committee, whose selections were most admirable. The profit from the dinner amounted to \$6,648.65.

Dateline:

The Club's annual magazine, Dateline 1960, was a most handsome publication which was distributed at the dinner and mailed to all members. It was prepared for us by the editors of Newsweek with John Denson, editor of Newsweek, and Art Milton, publisher of Dateline, serving as co-chairmen. Their theme "The Changing Role of the Foreign Correspondent" made this year's Dateline especially valuable to our profession. The profit from Dateline 1960, amounted to \$8,214.29.

Program:

I don't believe the Club has ever had a busier year nor have the Club programs been presented with more wisdom and taste than those we enjoyed this year. Scores of most important speakers, including the President of Argentina, the President of Colombia and the King of Belgium, were among our distinguished guests. Bruno Shaw as Program Administrator headed a group composed of the chairmen of some twelve (12) committees dealing with activities and I wish to thank each and every one of them for their splendid work.

I would be remiss if I did not particularly mention the book evenings whose presentation of prominent authors and critics have become among the most important literary events in New York City. Ed Cunningham has done a superb job which brought Allen Drury to the club with Senator Dodd commenting on *Advise and Consent*, and General Maxwell Taylor, recent chief of staff, with Tom Lamphier, Gen. Sarnoff and Congressman Ford of the House Appropriations committee, commenting on our defense picture as described in *The Uncertain Trumpet*. There were many more equally memorable evenings.

The regional dinners under Myra Waldo brought the cuisine and smooth execution of these sellout events to even a new high with the veteran hand of Larry Blochman and R. Barkle helping.

The luncheon committee under Kath-



John Wilhelm

leen McLaughlin, the press forums under Al Perlmutter, the Open House under James Sheldon, the correspondents reunions such as the Tokyo night last week under Jack Fraser have all been splendid. And there are many more, and I thank all of them.

Special Events:

Two special events marked the Club year with immense prestige for the Overseas Press Club. These were the College Editors Conference, where 200 college editors from all over the United States met in a three-day session, addressed by Senator John Kennedy among others. This was under the direction of Ruth Hagy Brod.

The Communications Seminar was held on April 25th with the subject "The Future Facilities of International Communication". This was an all-day session at the Overseas Press Club intended to give new background to the operating foreign editors in New York City regarding communication facilities and problems. Representative Oren Harris, chairman of the House sub-committee currently investigating in the broadcasting industry, spoke at the main meeting but work sessions were conducted throughout the day with other leading speakers. Phil Dorf and William Safire organized this seminar.

House Committee:

Never has the Club had a busier year in its bar and dining room or its private rooms. All of these facilities were booked practically solid throughout the year. The high level of cuisine and service are due in no small part to the attentive work of the House Operations Committee under Joe Ryle as well as the fine art exhibits which have graced our main dining room.

The Bulletin:

The Overseas Press Club Bulletin with Paul Grimes and then Bob Dunne as chairmen, and now currently under

Jess Gorkin and Don Wayne as co-chairman, continues to keep a fast pace in reporting the movements of foreign correspondents, coverage of big foreign news stories, as well as presenting Club functions to the members. The Bulletin also ran special supplements for the fund drive that played a most important part in enabling us to reach our goal for the membership campaign, plus outside contributions, totalling over a quarter of a million dollars. Lucille G. Pierlot was engaged as full-time Managing Editor during the year and has ably handled the mechanics of production together with the volunteer issue editors and the overseas correspondents which make the Bulletin the valuable publication it is.

Placement and Overseas Service

The Placement Committee, with its own office and a paid executive secretary, not only continue to help members find employment and new opportunities, but it was expanded to give special attention to the needs of returning foreign correspondents and this program will undoubtedly expand even further in the future. The Placement Committee also produced a brochure for employers which has been mailed out widely. Gerald Schroder headed this committee.

Club Staff

My thanks go especially to the permanent Club staff, numbering over 30 persons, who, under Manager James Foley and Mrs. Marion Cousens, manager of our office and accounting, handled the heavy load presented by our ever-growing Club operation. A new labour contract was negotiated for a period of three years which should enable the staff to function smoothly in the future. We have also provided equal retirement benefits for non-union employees. My special thanks go to Mary McNeil who has labored long and hard in the President's office with the administrative and executive work necessary to maintain the Club operation, plus the heavy correspondence, which few members appreciate until they hold this office.

Arnold Batiste, our hard-working membership secretary, deserves praise for his knowledgeable and patient work. So does Chef George Ovide and his staff, and Jimmy Lopez and his staff.

Our club archives were reclassified, restored to order, and housed in permanent files by Larry Stessin and his committee during the year. The Budget and Finance Committee under first Russ Anderson and then Harry Jiler not only prepared the club budget, but carried out a special study of our inventory and record systems and has made recommendations I hope the next house committee will take seriously.

Liaison with other Press Groups:

The Liaison Committee under John Luter worked with other press organizations in New York City during the year

to establish cordial relations and to keep them fully apprised of our plans for a World Press Center. A meeting of the presidents of thirteen such press organizations in New York City was held at a luncheon at the Overseas Press Club on Wednesday April 20th, and it is intended to continue these good relations.

Fund Drive:

As reported earlier in this report, the fund drive got off to a splendid start under the chairman of the executive committee of the World Press Center, Ben Wright, who kicked off the formal drive on October 29th, 1959, with a cocktail party at which Clare Boothe Luce, chairman, and Bon Considine, co-chairman, of the World Press Center Committee, launched the actual drive. Over 100 members were active in the drive during the ensuing six months and my thanks go out to all of them. The executive committee of the fund drive met frequently and handled most difficult problems in cooperation with William Mapel, fund drive consultant, and Kay Avery, who is still serving as fund drive director. 1,008 members contributed a sum in excess of \$135,000 while the overall drive has netted \$253,164.00 and will undoubtedly continue this momentum under the incoming administration. Ed Murrow, also a co-chairman of the World Press Center Committee, sent a special message of congratulations by a voice recording from Hong Kong which was heard at the Annual Dinner. It seems little short of miraculous to me that Ben Wright and I, together with Harold Oram, sat down only last August to plan such a drive and that over a quarter of a million dollars has been contributed in the few months since then. It shows the tremendous prestige and power of the Overseas Press Club.

President Eisenhower sent a message that can well be considered by future administrations in continuing the fund drive and the project for a World Press Center. This message says:

"Please give my warmest greetings to all attending the 21st Annual Awards Dinner of the Overseas Press Club. I understand that the Overseas Club has embarked upon a project to provide a World Press Center in New York City which will serve the journalists from the far corners of the world as a meeting place in our largest city. By encouraging the activities of a free press and providing a meeting place for free journalists of the world, you are helping society move toward the peace and understanding we all desire. I wish you success in your important endeavor." Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Let me say this in conclusion:

The Overseas Press Club is a great Club, it is a great professional institution and it has great drive and capabilities.

I think that much of this power comes from its standing as a professional press organization and we are proposing several amendments to the Constitution to guide it even further in this direction without in any way affecting its present membership. I hope you will support these amendments.

I say again, the Overseas Press Club should dream no little dreams, because its membership is fully capable of carrying out projects of great vision, and we are faced today with a world that sorely needs them.

*John Wilhelm,
President (1959-60)*

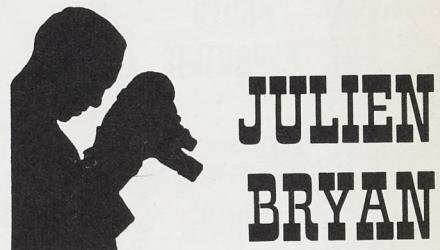
FRENCH PRESS (Cont'd from page 1)

ing days following President de Gaulle, a bed in the Waldorf looked more attractive than a sight-see through Central Park.

Among the journalists who flew over with the party were Andre Fontaine of LeMonde, Claude Azoulay of Paris Match, Fernand Moulier of Agence France Press, Jean-Pierre Renard of Paris-Press and Rene Puisseuseau of Francoise.

In from RTS radio and television came Jacques Sallebert, Sammy Simon, Maurice Werther and Claude Villedieu.

Both major American wire services pulled in members of their Paris bureaus, AP's Pierre Legros and UPI's Svet Yankovitch.



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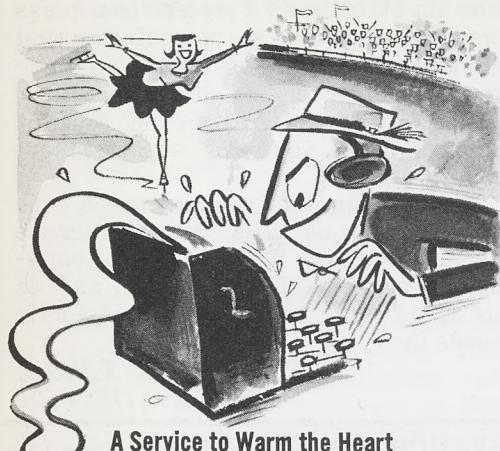
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The Overseas Press Bulletin, in its issue of March 5, reported:

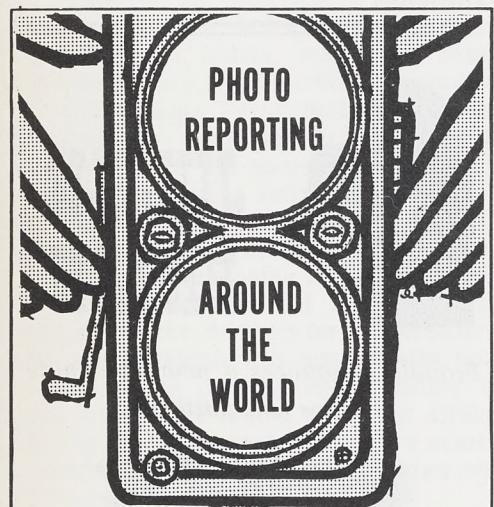
1. Below zero temperatures during the European Figure Skating Championships at Garmisch froze solid the telephone in the AP press section.
2. Correspondents in the AP press section rose to the occasion by using telex service to dispatch their bulletins.

Verily, telex service . . . providing international communication at typing speed . . . is something to warm the heart of a correspondent left out in the cold by other means of communication. RCA offers this service between the U.S. and 47 overseas points.

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No. 360 PR, plan and carry out public info. and PR operation for financial outfit; good writer; exp. in corporate publications, sales mgmt., etc. \$10,000 plus.

No. 361 Writer wanted by young, small investment counsel firm to write and place copy (part-time).

No. 362 Corporate PR firm needs specialist in corporate financial publicity; financial business news, PR publicity for corporate clients exp. req. \$12,000.

No. 363 Sales person, contacting Mad. Ave. et al to represent Africa's leading mag. Salary open, dep. on exp.

No. 364 Prom. writing, speeches etc. organize department; aviation background necessary; title open. \$8-9,000.

No. 365 PR contact with radio, TV; writer; health background pref. \$8,000.

Out of Town

No. 355 Non-profit org., int'l. affairs-educ. field (U.S. affairs), needs Ass't/Assoc. Directors, Boulder, Colo., and Ann Arbor, Mich. Travel. \$6,500-\$8,000 plus fringe benefits.

No. 366 Greenwich, Conn. Editor for employee magazine of manufacturing co. \$6,500-\$7,500.

No. 367 Westport hqs. PR. Newspaper and publicity bkgnd.

No. 368 Penna. Writer/researcher, science background, releases, articles, internal publication.

No. 369 Washington, D.C. Writer, feature articles, sales promotion and speeches, U.S. Gov't. Econ., political interest necessary; reporting exp. in trade publication field, foreign commerce desirable.

Anywhere

No. 356 Translator, Hungarian into English; 2 mss. (1 novel); familiarity with good idiom necessary.

If you wish your resume presented to employers for jobs listed above or otherwise available, and for further information, contact Placement Committee, Miss Barbara Bennett (temporarily serving as Executive Secretary) on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at OPC. Write, call or use Bulletin return post card to let Committee know of jobs available. We can assist only OPC members in finding jobs. Gerald Schroder, Chairman

TICKER (Continued from page 3)

collect suggestions for tour coverage. The Soviets have not yet announced whether they will lay on service to supplement the regular three phone lines plus telegraph to London.

Travel notes: Robert Korengold, UPI, off for a month's leave in the US....Max Frankel, NYTimes, on a feature-writing swing in Southern USSR....Osgood Carruthers, NYTimes, Preston Grover, AP, and this UPI correspondent were among some 50 fgn correspondents taken by the Fgn Ministry press dept to Murmansk and Petrozavodsk. The American contingent laid a wreath on the graves of three US merchant seamen killed in 1942 on the Murmansk run.

Footnote to Khrushchev's Tour de France: On the train returning the premier's party to Paris, Khrushchev stopped by Henry Shapiro's table and accepted an invitation to sit down. NSK not only answered the questions of a quickly-convened press gathering, he also handed out promises of Soviet visas—including one to Dan Schorr, CBS, whose re-entry visa was cancelled after CBS telecast a play dealing with Stalin's last hours.

PLEDGES (Continued from page 1)

Fund pledges receipts and the Annual Award Dinner raised the total to \$261,510.37, with 1,012 members participating.

The following members were recorded this week as having pledged \$100 or more:

Paul Sheldon	\$200
John M. Rosenberg	150
Anonymous	150
Alexander Campbell	150
Robert S. Benjamin	125
John H. Martin	100
Philip J. Gray	100
Harold Hutchins	100
Boleslaw Wierzbianski	100
Marc A. Rose & Camille D. Rose	100
Bernard Gittelson	100
Ruth K. Hill	100
ABC Correspondent	100
Jerome Edelberg	100
Michael Horton	100
Robert D. Eckhouse	100
Henry Clay Gipson	100
Alton A. Adams	100
Jules Berens	100
Joseph E. Dynan	100
Edward Maher	100
Gerald A. Sigsfeld	100

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The Great Game of Politics

By Bob Considine

A club I belong to is in the death throes of its annual election, and if there's any more painful aspect of democracy, it hasn't come to my attention. Khrushchev might have something, at that . . .

Nuzzle up to one of Jimmy's martinis — so dry you have to brush the dust off them — and get ready for that first life — saving and morale-building swallow and, alas, you sense that something is direly wrong. Not with the drink, but with you.

You feel several sets of great hurt eyes staring at the back of your neck reproachfully, more in sorrow than in anger. They are the eyes of seekers of high office in the club. You have not come out for any of them, and each individually suspects that you're opposed to him. Only by the greatest exercise of self-control can they resist the temptation to grab you by the lapels and, on the brink of tears, demand hoarsely, "What did I ever do to make you hate me?"

I don't know how it is in your club, but mine is made up of men and women who are just hopelessly fascinated by the great game of politics. One is inclined to wonder what most of them do for a living at this time of the year; certainly they don't work at anything except running for office or running others for office.

We have three candidates for the presidency of our club. They are three outstanding men. Each would make a fine chief executive. In campaign literature, each has promised to clean up the mess, rout the rascals, return integrity to government, endorse freedom of the press and condemn the early cutting of dogwood. Each has a record cleaner than a hound's tooth. Not one wears another man's collar or is a creature of vested interests.

I've had a grand total of \$3.10 worth of drinks knocked out of my hands or spilled by backslapping campaign managers of the several dozen members running for various offices.

Ours used to be a very simple little club before it decided to take on the problems of the world. Nobody ever thought of running for office. We had a very efficient club secretary named Hester Hensell. About this time of year she'd give a fellow a call and say, "I've got news for you buster. You're going to be president of the club this coming year. Try to show up for the meeting Friday night. Henry Quagmire is nominating you."

"Oh, please, you must be kidding," you'd gasp in anguish. "Get some other chump. I don't have time to be president of anything. Besides, I haven't spoken to Quagmire since he turned state's evidence in the Peter Zengar trial."

I got stuck twice before I broke myself of the presidential habit. Other past presidents of the club have confided that the experience left searing scars that will never properly heal, and that the only thing they'll ever run for again is the 8:14 from Pelham Manor.

Yet, here we are ensnarled in an election as grim as any on the national scene.

All laughter except the hollow kind has fled our friendly portals, not to return until the last ballot is counted and the hapless winners assume the togas of office — which will give them life or death power over what to do about the leaky faucet on the third floor and the price of hash brown potatoes at the Sportsman's Lunch. The rival candidates, dear friends hardly a month ago, barely nod as they move stiffly to their leather chairs in the library.

It was so much simpler in the dear dead days. Democracy has certainly loused things up.

(Hearst Headline Service)

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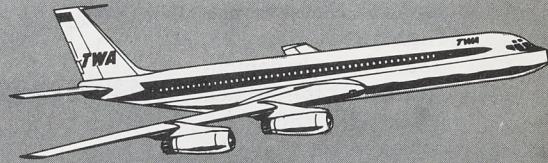
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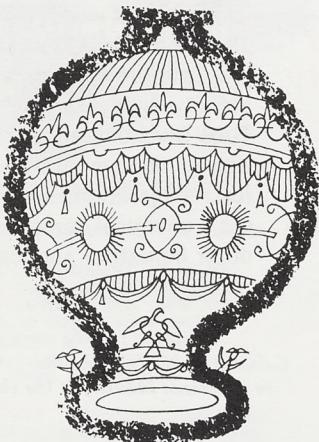
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A BRIEF

HISTOIRE D'AIR FRANCE

(that is also a history of French aviation)

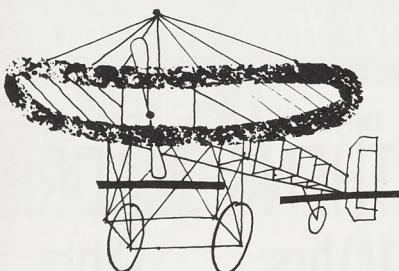
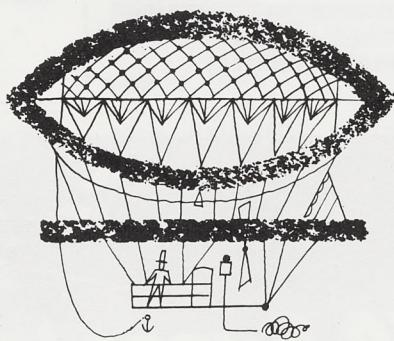
L'HISTOIRE ANCIENNE



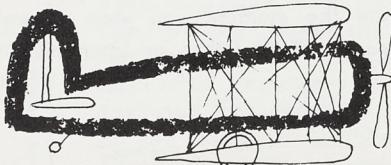
FIRST MEN TO FLY. Joseph and Etienne Montgolfier successfully take to the skies, June 5, 1783. Man's ancient dream of air-borne travel suddenly becomes a practical reality.

L'HISTOIRE "PIONEER"

FIRST ENGINE-POWERED DIRIGIBLE. Remarkable speed of 6½ MPH was clocked by Henri Gifford on a Paris-Trappe flight, September 24, 1852. An early demonstration of the French genius for technical achievement that is a tradition with Air France today.

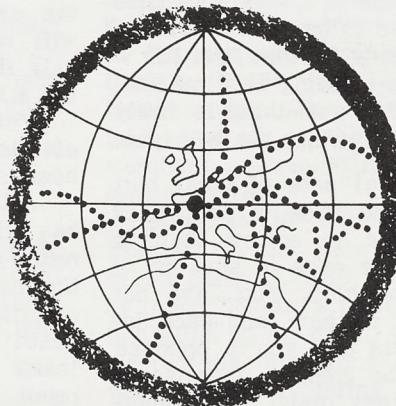


FIRST INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT. French aviation gained new stature when Louis Blériot flew 25 miles across the English Channel, July 25, 1909. This memorable journey focused world attention on the immense possibilities of commercial flight.



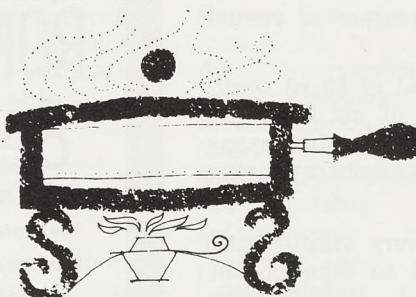
FIRST INTERNATIONAL PASSENGER FLIGHT. Air France's flight from Paris to London, February 8, 1919. Eleven passengers made the trip. Flew 187 miles in 2½ hours. Today, Air France passengers fly 1500 miles in the same 2½ hours.

L'HISTOIRE MODERNE



LES PLUS GRANDES ROUTES. Today, Air France the world's largest airline. Routes cover more than 202,000 unduplicated miles...connect 210 cities in 76 countries. Air France is the largest *French* airline, too. Though it cooperates closely with all other French airlines, none are part of Air France. As the official French national airline, Air France maintains its unique identity...the oldest, the largest, the most experienced of all.

LES PLUS GRANDS JETS. All Air France jets are superb! The 707 Intercontinentals are the largest, fastest, longest-range jets in the world. Air France Caravelle Jets have an outstanding performance record. Air France uses both to provide the world's only jet-to-jet service between the U.S.A., Europe, Africa and the Middle East.



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